Remarks

Claims 1-25 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 8, and 18 have been amended. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-21, and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,173,317 to Chaddha et al. (hereinafter "Chaddha"). Claims 5, 10 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chaddha in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,007,098 to Smyth et al. (hereinafter "Smyth").

A. Independent Claims 1, 8, and 18

Independent claims 1, 8, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chaddha. Because the Examiner rejected independent claims 1, 8, and 18 under section 102(e) on the basis of Chaddha, each element of these claims must be disclosed in Chaddha. Chaddha, however, does not disclose each element of independent claims 1, 8, and 18, as amended. Specifically, Chaddha does not disclose that the **combined data stream** produced by the data processing device and transmitted to the thin media client is **operable to be rendered** for display at the thin media client.

In accordance with the present invention, a thin media client renders a combined data stream that comprises a media stream that has been previously preprocessed by a separate data processing device. (Specification, [0007]) The thin media client is responsible only for rendering this combined data stream for display, but it "is not involved in the pre-processing of the data stream," and "is not responsible for any of the pre-processing tasks related to the data stream, including the mixing, demultiplexing, or encoding of the data." (Specification, [0007]) In an example embodiment of the present invention, a single combined digital data stream is provided to Thin Media Client A, which renders this combined digital data stream for display on

an associated display device, such as a television. (Specification, [0016]) The digital stream that is provided to Thin Media Client A does not need additional processing at Thin Media Client A to render the digital stream for display in a picture-in-picture or shared picture format, for example. (Specification, [0016]) That is, Thin Media Client A renders for display the combined digital data stream that has already been pre-processed according to the requests of the user. (Specification, [0017])

The combined digital data stream that is transmitted to a thin media client of the present invention is **operable to be rendered for display** at a thin media client, needing **no additional processing**, as clearly stated in the Specification of the present invention. Additional pre-processing tasks performed by the data processing device on the data streams, and **not** by the thin media client, include decoding, decryption, encryption, attenuation, and amplification of data streams that are processed and transmitted as a combined data stream to a thin media client for rendering. (Specification, [0016]) The advantage of not performing these pre-processing tasks at the thin media client is that the thin media client may be optimized to perform the task of **rendering** the combined data stream in a specific, predetermined format, thereby reducing the amount of data that must be transferred to the thin media client. (Specification, [0013], [0007], and [0008])

In contrast to the present invention, Chaddha fails to teach or disclose that the **combined data stream** produced by the data processing device and transmitted to the thin media client is **operable to be rendered** for display at the thin media client. Specifically, *encoded* video/audio frames and separate but associated annotation frames are streamed from stream server 220 to client computer 240 for synchronous display. (Chaddha, col.8, lines 45-49) Next, the encoded video/audio frames are *decoded* in step 1040 by decoder 964, which is clearly

located within the client computer 240, before being rendered for display. (Chaddha, col.8, lines 60-65 and Figures 9-10) It is clear that the data stream(s) that are produced by stream server 220 and transmitted to client computer 240 are ***not operable to be rendered*** for display at the client because they ***must first be decoded*** into a new data stream (that is not the same as the encoded stream that was originally transmitted to the client computer). This is in direct contrast to the present invention, in which the thin media client need only render the combined data stream for display at an associated display device. In the present invention, the combined data stream is **operable to be rendered for display** without any additional processing by the thin media client, including (as specifically stated) decoding. (Specification, [0016])

Because Chaddha fails to teach or disclose the requirement that the **combined data stream** produced by the data processing device and transmitted to the thin media client is **operable to be rendered** for display at the thin media client, Chaddha fails to support a finding of anticipation under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). Applicants request that the rejections of independent claims 1, 8, and 18 be withdrawn.

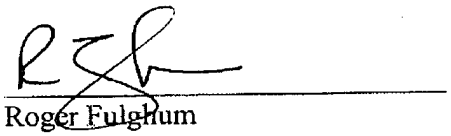
B. Dependent Claims 2-7, 9-17, and 19-25

Claims 2-7, 9-17, and 19-25 will not be discussed individually herein, as they depend from otherwise allowable base claims.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-25 should be passed to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,



Roger Fulghum
Registration No. 39,678

Baker Botts L.L.P.
910 Louisiana St.
One Shell Plaza
Houston, Texas 77002-4995
(713) 229-1707

Baker Botts Docket Number: 016295.1384

Date: December 27, 2007